

GERMANY'S OFFER

Her Terms for the Settlement of the Samoan Difficulty.

A TRIPLE PROTECTORATE SEEMS TO BE THE MOST PRACTICABLE.

It is Explained Why Count Bismarck Used French at the Opening of the Conference—The Nihilists Continue Undaunted—The Young King of Serbia May Soon Lose His Crown—Foreign Notes.

NEW YORK, May 8.—A Herald special from Berlin says: From a source which, though excellent, I am not at liberty to quote, I am enabled to present to you an approximate estimate of the terms that would satisfy Germany in the solution of the Samoan difficulty. It cannot be denied, nor is it denied by Americans who have been in the island, that the Germans have invested more money—three times as much, they claim—in Samoa, as both England and the United States taken together.

The Conditions.

What the German government therefore claims is, first, satisfaction for the killing of the German officers and sailors in the action with Mataafa's men on December 17 last, and, secondly, compensation for losses sustained by German investors and owners of plantations. Therefore, if the United States will purchase the plantations owned by the German company, or the Samoans themselves purchase the plantations, payment being guaranteed by the United States, Germany will not make the slightest resistance to the installation of Malietoa or some one of the minor chiefs, and therefore names Tamsese, he having a following, and Mataafa being utterly out of the question from the German standpoint. They will also probably urge the punishment of Mataafa, say by imprisonment for a time on a German man-of-war, or on an island under the German flag. They may waive this condition in consideration of a round sum paid to the widows and orphans or nearest relatives of the Germans slain on the island.

The Neutrality of Samoa.

The third condition, equally acceptable to each of the three powers, is that the three collectively guarantee the neutrality of Samoa. In other words, Germany wishes to save the stake in the islands, and it would perhaps be the wisest policy on the part of the United States to accept this, after all, as the simplest solution of the difficulty, and by a well-timed concession to Germany's tender sense of honor and solicitude for the welfare of her colonists, make a friend of her forever.

Why He Used French.

Well informed Germans assure me that Count Herbert Bismarck had not the slightest intention of impressing the English speaking members of the conference with a sense of the greatness of Germany at the expense of their own feelings, when he made that famous speech in French at the beginning of the conference. He was obliged, though he speaks English like an Englishman, to uphold his right to use French as the language of diplomatic intercourse. If he had opened the conference in English the Spaniards, Italians, Portuguese or Russians might have pointed to the precedent as justification of their right to use their own language, with which he might not be equally familiar, at some future conference. Nor is it true that the two American members of the conference were entirely ignorant of that language. Mr. Phelps spoke that language in diplomatic intercourse at the Austrian court, and Mr. Bates himself assured me that he understood almost every word the count uttered on that memorable occasion.

England Leans Toward Germany.

While it is well known that England's leanings in the conference are toward Germany on that vexed question of secret understanding concerning Tonga, Sir Edward maintained an obstinate silence. He expressed himself, however, in a very kindly manner regarding the favorable impression produced upon himself and others at the conference by their American colleagues. Sir Edward, and there is no better judge in such matters, is inclined to think that another month will see the labor of the conference ended. He had met Mr. Kasson before, at the Congo conference, when both of them were representing their respective countries.

It May Take Six Sitzings.

In Sir Edward's library there lies on a spider table near the window a large folio of volumes containing, in all the glory of gilt edges and magnificent printing, the minutes of the Congo conference. When your representative asked Sir Edward about how often the Samoan conference would sit he turned to this book, and after consulting it said he believed that now, as at the Congo conference, all matters of detail would be referred to a sub-committee. The Congo conference, he remarked, sat only ten times during those three months. Five or six sittings, therefore, will, in all probability, suffice to settle the Samoan matter.

The Emperor Regrets Our Iron Rule.

At the presentation of colors last Thursday morning to the First Regiment of Foot Guards, Messrs. Kasson, Phelps and Bates were in evening dress, and it is understood the Kaiser was graciously pleased to express his regret at the iron rule that insists on that costume on such occasions as a substitute for full uniform. Amid that large crowd of imperial guests, attired one and all in uniforms of every hue of the rainbow, the American representatives attracted general notice by the republican simplicity of their attire. It is safe to say that if over three American diplomats regretted the absence of a diplomatic uniform in the American service the three gentlemen did. The two young naval officers, Buckingham and Parker, were in full uniform, cocked hats and all, and no couple of handsome and rich young fellows could have been picked out to do Uncle Sam's service more credit.

Graciously Received by Count Bismarck. Nothing could have been more eminently gracious than the manner in which Count Bismarck received his guests at dinner the other day in the garden pavilion of the foreign office, where he makes his home. When the hour for leave-taking came, and it was a late one, for Count Herbert is a host who will not be denied, he walked across the large garden with each one of the departing guests, while in the great trees that surround the house the siren voices of great numbers of nightingales poured forth a

volume of sweet melody to enchant the ears of Uncle Sam's Republican representatives.

Wanted to Show Germany's Strength.

Some people have ventured to assert that when the emperor issued his invitation to the Americans to attend the parade at Potsdam he did so with the view of impressing them with a sense of the military power of Germany. If so, he certainly succeeded. "Nowhere in the world," said one of the naval officers attached to the commission afterward, "can you see such absolute precision of movement, such large masses of men so deftly and skilfully handled."

Increased Nihilist Activity.

LONDON, May 8.—Scarcely a day passes now that does not bring press dispatches or private communications from St. Petersburg telling of increased Nihilist activity and a corresponding increase of the fears of the czar for his safety. The Russian police have redoubled their efforts of late to thwart Nihilist plots and break up Nihilist haunts with extremely gratifying results, but despite the vigilance of the czar's minions the conspirators continue their work undaunted, and the terror of his imperial majesty grows apace.

This state of affairs is said upon good authority to have so affected the czar's health that his condition gives much cause for anxiety. Reports as to his physical and mental health, exaggerated, perhaps, but still based upon a visible change in his appearance and demeanor, are current in London and represent him as having lost both flesh and spirits to an alarming degree within the past few months. These reports are freely discussed at the clubs and after the considerate English manner, numerous wagers have been laid as to whether his majesty will fully recover from the nervous affection induced by the latest attempt at his assassination.

Those who know Dvornitzki, who is held as the projector of the latest Nihilist conspiracy against the life of the czar, do not believe that he has named or will name his accomplices, as has been stated. He bears the reputation among his fellows of being an indomitable man who took of his own free will what he regarded as the post of honor as it certainly was of danger.

The Youthful Serbian King.

LONDON, May 8.—All Europe is interested in the little King of Serbia. It was but Monday that King Milan sent his general, Protitch, to wrest from poor Queen Natalie the young prince who was her only son and the only consolation of her humiliations and adversities. She was compelled to yield to force. Prince Alexander was hurried back to Serbia. A caprice of his father tore him from his mother's arms. A new caprice has now placed King Milan's crown on the head of this boy of 13 years of age. It is a little crown, worn by a little king, and it is entirely possible that he may wear it for but a little while.

His little kingdom, lying, as it does, between the two great European rivals, Russia and Austria, may not long retain its independence. In a short time—shorter than anyone would now venture to predict—the young King Alexander may again become Prince Alexander as before. In the meantime his youth, his beauty (which reminds one of his mother Queen Natalie, the misfortunes of his early years, and the uncertainties of his future make him an object of interest and sympathy to all men, and more especially to all the women of Europe.

A Royal Meeting.

LONDON, May 8.—An envoy of ex-Queen Natalie of Serbia, has arrived at Yalta to arrange with the Serbian regency for a meeting of the exiled queen and her son, King Alexander, at the castle of Ivanke. The youthful king is said to be quite anxious for the meeting as his mother, and it is known that M. Ristic is not adverse to it. The probabilities are, therefore, that no opposition will be made to the plan and that the meeting will take place at an early date, resulting in the return of Natalie to Belgrade.

Riot in Rome.

ROME, May 8.—A Radical banquet given in Terni last night to celebrate the anniversary of the French revolution, ended in a street riot between workmen and military, in which several persons were injured.

Mr. Pendleton Leaves Berlin.

BERLIN, May 8.—Mr. Pendleton, the retiring United States minister, and his two daughters, have gone to Schaudau.

Foreign Notes.

Gibbs' soap works, London, were burned. Loss £100,000.

It is stated that the czar will, in a short time, be crowned king of Poland.

Thirty persons engaged in selling a Socialist pamphlet have been arrested in Hamburg.

Perrin, who fired a blank cartridge at President Carnot, was recently under treatment for insanity.

The houses of sixteen members of the Boulangerist party at Neuilly have been searched by the police.

Capt. Wissman's force, 900 strong, has arrived at Bogomayo, and active hostilities with the natives at that place are imminent.

Mr. William O'Brien and Mr. Edward Harrington, who were released from prison in order that they might give testimony before the Farnell commission, are in London. Mr. Harrington is attired in the prison dress.

The lately published correspondence of Morley proves that Prince Bismarck is by no means indifferent to a joke, and the risibilities of the grim chancellor are said to have been hugely awakened by the desire of Queen Victoria to bestow the Order of the Garter upon the queen regent of Spain, in spite of the historical dictum accepted for more than a century, "that the queens of Spain have no legs."

HARRISON'S HEALTH.

His Former Physician Says He Is Not

Troubled With Bright's Disease.

INDIANAPOLIS, May 8.—The sensational reports emanating in Detroit that President Harrison had developed marked symptoms of Bright's disease and that this accounts for the deadly pallor of his features, has brought Dr. Henry Jameson, of this city, to the fore. Dr. Jameson says there is not a shadow of truth in the report that Harrison has kidney trouble. After his nomination several life insurance companies sought his patronage, and one of them placed a policy with him for \$25,000. The examination disclosed no traces of Bright's disease and the risk was readily taken. Dr. Jameson also reports that the only sickness from which Harrison suffered was an attack of cold some months ago, and while it is true that he is pale, this is constitutional and not owing to illness.

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